

MERCHANTS SIDE GIVEN

Reply to Communication of "A Farmer" is Made.

To the Editor of The Bulletin: Last week there appeared in your column an article signed "A Farmer" and supposed to contain the farmer's side of the merchandise question. This article was so manifestly unfair to the merchant that I cannot allow it to pass unchallenged.

Now, Mr. Farmer, if you have any grievance against the merchants, why not go directly to the merchant and have it out with him? But for the benefit of those who read your article and may not be familiar with the other side, I want to take up your claims one by one and answer them.

Your first statement is that the merchants of Bend object to the farmers buying their goods in Portland or Chicago. Of course we do, and why not? Do the Portland or Chicago men from whom you buy your goods assist you in any way? Will they take any of your farm products in exchange for their merchandise? When the new Grange Hall was built just east of town, did any merchant in Portland or Chicago contribute one cent to help you build it? I contributed to it as your treasurer will testify and I am sure every other merchant in Bend did the same thing.

When your school opens in the fall, is it the tax paid by the Portland or Chicago men that is used to pay the teacher's salary, or is it the tax paid by the merchants and citizens of Bend? When you want a new road do you ask the Portland or Chicago men to help you get it, or do you come to the merchants of Bend and ask their assistance?

And so it is with a thousand other things that you enjoy; We assist you in every way that we can and we are only too glad to do it. What benefits one, benefits the other. We cannot help you without helping ourselves. On the other hand, when you start out to injure the merchant you are injuring yourself just that much. The merchants have used every means in their power to keep all the money possible in the country and not buying anything outside that could possibly be bought here. And yet the farmers have sent out of the county within the past six months over \$35,000 that could have been left here to our mutual advantage. The chances are that if it was left here you would get another crack at your dollar, but when it is sent out it is lost and gone forever. It is well to think of these things before sending your money out to the catalogue houses.

Again, you ask, "Why will the merchants buy eggs, butter and

vegetables of farmers around other towns instead of Bend?"

Because we have never been able to get one quarter enough eggs to supply our trade. There isn't a merchant in Bend who has refused eggs from any farmer within the last year. Personally, I have not shipped an egg into Bend for over two years. Others have shipped them in because they could not get enough to fill their orders. Would you have us lose trade and customers because we did not ship in goods that you could not supply? If you have any eggs, bring them to my store and I will guarantee to take them.

The butter condition is almost the same. We all have customers who do not want ranch butter and we must get creamery butter for them. Personally, I have used nothing but the Prineville creamery butter and this was as near home as we could get until the creamery started here in Bend. Now we are using Bend butter when we can get it. The creamery is running every day if it can secure cream enough, which it hasn't been able to do so far. It is paying the highest price for butter fat and taking every bit that is offered. Take your cream to the creamery, get your check regularly every month and have ready money every week to spend for what you want them.

Your statement that the merchants here refused to replace anything that was not good must be a mistake. Speaking personally, I know it is. The statement that I have made in every advertisement that I have put out is "Your money back if you are not satisfied" and every merchant here in Bend works on the same principle. All I ask is that the goods not satisfactory be returned to me, when the matter will be adjusted to your entire satisfaction.

In dealing with catalogue houses, can you notify them that "so many cans of this or that are not good" and get other goods in place of them? Haven't you got to return the goods for inspection before anything is done about it? I think you have. All we ask is the return of the goods and this we insist upon.

The merchants of Bend are as fair and liberal with their customers as any set of merchants in this country. We have always taken your produce of all kinds whenever we could possibly do so and very many times paid cash for it, only to have you send the money out of the country to the detriment of all concerned. I ask in behalf of all the merchants of Bend a fair deal.

A. M. LARA.

Township blanks, neatly bound in books, 25 cents at The Bulletin.

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The Courts.
Circuit—Meets first Monday in May and third Monday in October.
Probate—Meets first Monday in each month.
Commissioners—Meets first Wednesday in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Bend School District No. 12.
Directors H. J. Overdorf, Chmn
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City of Bend.
Mayor Office Vacant
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City Engineer George S. Young
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A. L. French
M. S. Lattin
S. J. Spencer
John Steidl
J. H. Wenandy

HAMPTON BUTTE

The New Town laid out in Section 16, township 21 south, range 22 east, about half way between Burns and Bend
Is Now Placed on the Market.

It is located on the survey of the Oregon Trunk east and west line, and is the same distance from Metolius, the first division point, as that station is from Fallbridge; and Hampton Butte will undoubtedly be the second division point on the Oregon Trunk when the road is extended.

Hampton Butte is in the fertile Hampton Valley, which has been settled up and is being turned from a sagebrush plain into a dry farming grain country. The town is near the Horace Brookings' stopping place, and from one corner of the townsite can be counted the homes of 34 settlers.

A store and Hotel are expected to be built in Hampton Butte this summer by the Oregon Central Improvement Co., owners of the property, and within thirty days the company expects to have a drill on the ground to go down to secure artesian water.

A block of the townsite has been dedicated for school house purposes and another block for park purposes.
The Agents for Hampton Butte townsite at Bend are

THE WENANDY LIVERY COMPANY

from whom any information may be obtained

Oregon Central Improvement Co.

Main Office: 411 Mutual Life Bldg.,

F. A. HILL, Pres. SEATTLE, WASH.
N. W. PARKER, Sec.
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